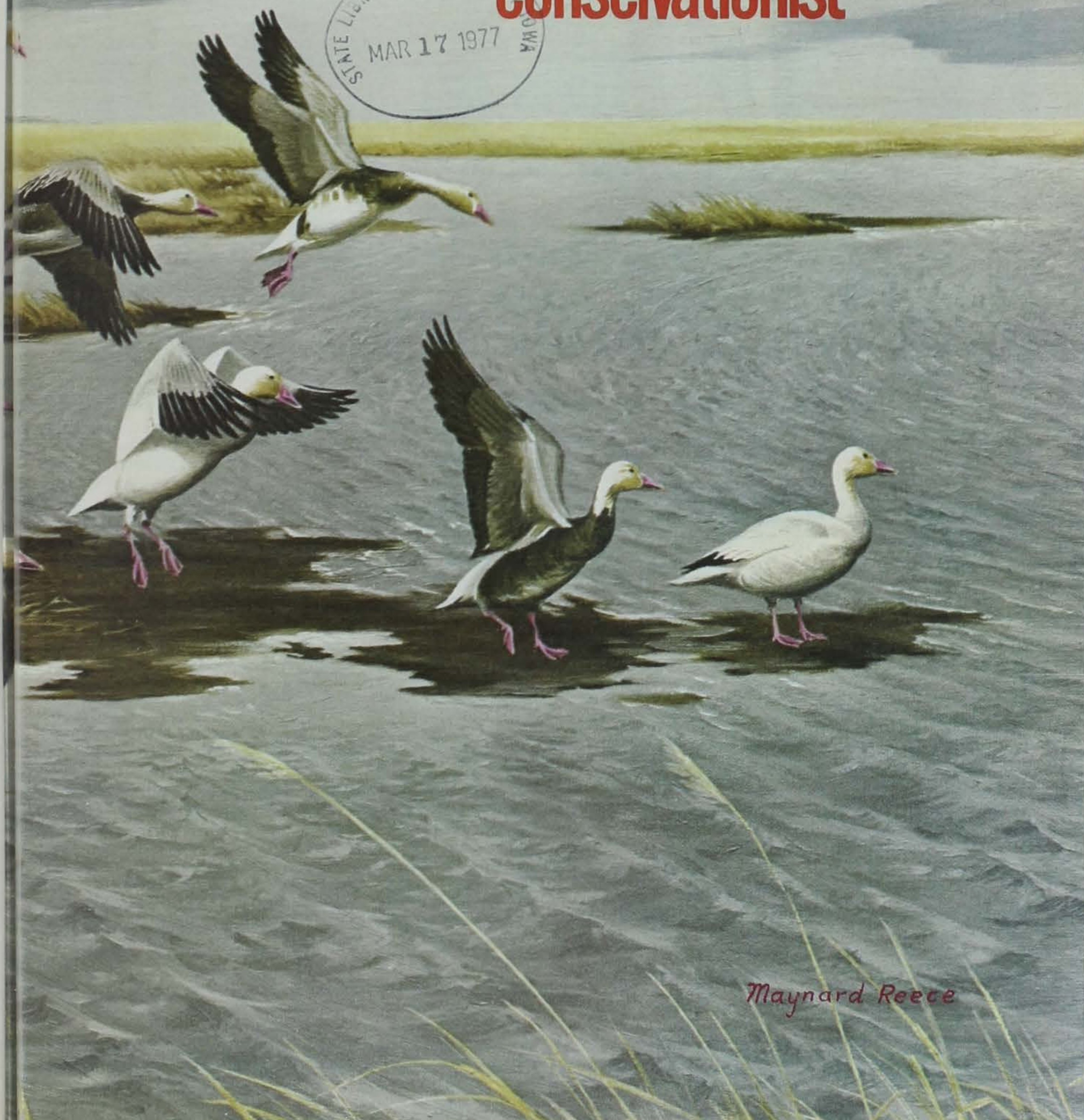
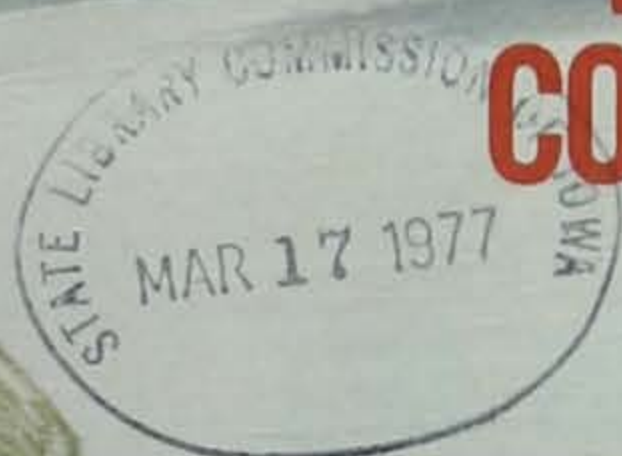


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Kenneth Formanek, A-V Coordinator
Julius Satre, Contributing Editor
Wayne Lonning, Photographer
Jerry Leonard, Photographer

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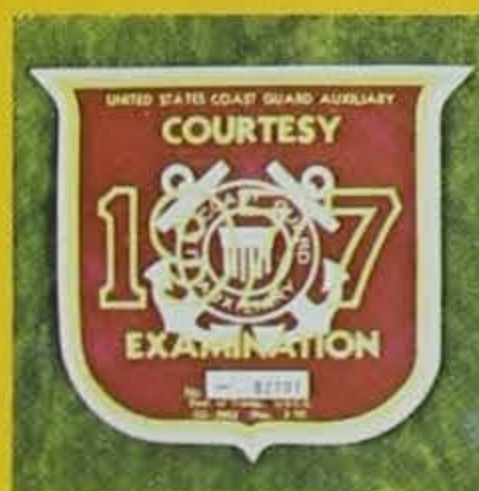
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Hats Off to the Coast Guard Auxiliary



By James E. Horan

BOATING SAFETY COORDINATOR

WHAT'S a maritime organization doing in the land of corn and soybeans? As the civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard, the Coast Guard Auxiliary provides a valuable service to recreational boaters in Iowa.

The purpose of the Coast Guard Auxiliary is to "promote safe boating" and Iowa's Auxiliarists are upholding a strong tradition. Today their activities entail on-the-water rescue, public safe boating education courses, and courtesy motorboat examinations.

Actual rescues are often the result of safety patrols. On several heavy boating areas Auxiliarists voluntarily run regular checks such as twilight patrols to insure boater safety. Besides actual rescues, many boaters in trouble due to breakdown are assisted or towed to safety.

The Auxiliary is active in education programs. A basic 13-lesson course instructs adults in the safe handling of watercraft. For

the new boater such subjects as boat handling, rules of the road, boating regulations, locks and dams, and aids to navigation are invaluable. The experienced boater will find additional subjects including charts and compass, marine engines, marlinespike seamanship, sailing, weather, and marine radio telephone very interesting.

Iowa Auxiliarists also teach the basics to young boaters through classroom instruction in Iowa schools. Normally from one to three hours, these courses help create an awareness of safe operation in the minds of our young boaters.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary works in cooperation with the Iowa Conservation Commission, the state governmental agency responsible for boating safety. Persons successfully completing the 13-lesson course provided by the Coast Guard Auxiliary will receive a certificate from the Commission. This certificate is honored in those states with mandatory youth certification programs.

Probably one of the most important and useful of Auxiliary contributions to safe boating is the Courtesy Motorboat Examination (CME). A CME is essentially a check of a boat's required and suggested additional safety equipment. Volunteer Auxiliarists stationed near a public boat ramp inspect lights, personal flotation devices, fire extinguisher, and in order to receive a CME decal they suggest a bailer, flares, and a paddle. This courtesy examination does not involve enforcement but rather serves as a voluntary reminder to the boater and takes only a few minutes.

Iowa's Auxiliary is expanding. The number of flotillas has reached 23 and more are expected in the near future. Nationally the Coast Guard Auxiliary now outnumbers the U.S. Coast Guard. It hasn't always been this way. In fact, at one time the Auxiliary seemed destined to fold.

After its inception as the Coast Guard Reserve in 1939, and a name change to the Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1941, the Auxiliary grew to a level of 11,500 members by 1942. Following a tireless wartime effort Auxiliary rosters diminished as many non-boating, temporary reservists lost interest. But under better organization with commitments to providing much needed services to the expanding boating public the Auxiliary again began to grow.

In Iowa the Auxiliary became active in the 1950's primarily along the border rivers. Now the Auxiliary has the potential to reach thousands of boaters across the state.

The activities of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary compliment the Iowa Conservation Commission's boating safety program. As auxiliary services such as the Courtesy Motorboat Examination and public education programs increase—the Iowa boater stands to benefit. □

Over 300 Entries, Five State Records Caught

'76--A BIG YEAR FOR BIG FISH

By Roger Sparks

THE IOWA ANGLER must be sharpening his skills as well as his hooks, because the 1976 "lunker list" is the longest ever. Over 300 entries qualified for the Conservation Commission's Big Fish Registry with four of them topping former state records. Also, a fifth record was established under a new category in 1976.

The question of who has the state's top smallmouth water is still undecided. Just when those fishermen around Spirit and West Okoboji have us convinced those lakes are unbeatable, some guy like *Jimmy McAndrews* from Decorah hauls one out of the Upper Iowa River. Jimmy, who has fished long and hard enough to deserve his state record bass, finally landed a 6-pound, 7-ounce trophy which bettered the former smallmouth record by 3 ounces. The fish was caught in July—usually a good stream bass month—on a live minnow.

The all-time Iowa sauger record was smashed in 1976 when *Mrs. William Buser* of Sloan nailed a 6-pound, 8-ounce lunker from the Missouri River, Woodbury County. The fish topped the former state record by 1-pound, 6-ounces and fell just 2-pounds, 4-ounces short of the world record. The 24-inch fish took a minnow. Like all state records the big sauger was verified by fisheries personnel.

Most anglers would consider a 2-pound, 5-ounce bass a pretty fair fish, but when a bluegill gets that big, it has to make the record books. *Mary Pool* of Prairie City took the fish in late April from a farm pond "somewhere" in Jasper County. The big 'gill nipped the old record by an ounce and was nearly a foot long. That's some panfish!

A large green sunfish was entered and officially verified last year and because the species is common to many Iowa waters, a new category has been established. The fish to beat weighed 1-pound, 4-ounces and was taken by *Ronald Sinnwell* of Des Moines. He caught the 11-inch sunny from a Polk County farm pond. (A new category for redear sunfish, common to a number of lakes in southern Iowa, is open to fish caught in 1977—see details on how-to-enter.)

Iowa's all-time top yellow bass was caught in 1976, finally breaking the one pound barrier. The 16½-ounce streaker was taken from Clear Lake by *Floyd Kinnan* of Clear Lake in September on a nightcrawler.

Paddlefish snagging has become popular on both the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and although the state record remains unscathed, nineteen entries qualified in 1976 over the 25 pound minimum weight—the biggest tipped the scales at 68 pounds. Channel catfish and flathead categories were down slightly but the top fish were good ones; a 43-pound flathead and a 22-pound, 8-ounce channel cat headed those lists.

Walleyes over the eight pound minimum are indeed trophies and last year, sixty—a record number of entries for any category—were submitted. Thirty-one largemouth bass were recorded, a few more than in '75. A 12-pound, 8-ounce rainbow and an 11-pound, 1-ounce brown topped the trout categories which totaled 22 entries. The biggest increase in numbers of entries come from the panfish categories with bluegills accounting for 22 and crappies having 15 entries in '76.

Right: Jimmy McAndrews of Decorah displays his record winning 6 lb. 7 oz. smallmouth bass. Below: Mrs. William Buser, Sloan, with her record 6 lb. 8 oz. sauger.



Left: Floyd Kinnan, Clerk Lake. His 1 lb. 1/2 oz. catch set a new record for yellow bass. Below: Another new state record winner with a 2 lb. 5 oz. bluegill is Prairie City's Mary Pool with daughter, Jodi Lynn.



1976 Big Fish Entries



Paul Berglund, Ft. Madison

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
BASS (Largemouth)				
9 lb. 2 oz.	23 1/2"	Farm Pond	5-9	Paul W. Burgund
8 lb. 12 oz.	23"	Van Buren County	9-25	Paul W. Burgund
8 lb. 8 oz.	24 1/2"	Farm Pond	6-20	John D. Burns
8 lb. 8 oz.	24 1/2"	Warren County	9-8	Kendall R. Holm
8 lb. 6 oz.	22"	Guthrie County	8-14	James Augspurger
8 lb. 6 oz.	23 1/4"	Lake Wapello	6-11	Paul W. Burgund
8 lb. 6 oz.	23 3/4"	Davis County	4-14	Randy Fulton
8 lb. 5 oz.	23 1/2"	Farm Pond	10-19	George L. Marzeck
8 lb. 4 oz.	22 1/4"	Des Moines County	6-7	James Augspurger
8 lb. 4 oz.	23"	Lake Wapello	4-23	Leo J. Welch
8 lb. 3 oz.	23"	Davis County	10-7	George L. Marzeck
8 lb. 1 oz.	23 3/4"	Montgomery County	8-31	Leo J. Welch
8 lb.	23 1/2"	Sand Pit	3-21	Frank L. Gustafson
7 lb. 15 oz.	23 1/2"	Polk County	8-1	Peter Ross
7 lb. 14 oz.	22 3/4"	Mills County	9-19	Denny Burd
7 lb. 12 oz.	22 1/2"	Farm Pond	10-15	Andy Selk
7 lb. 10 oz.	23 1/4"	Fremont County	4-11	Gerald Curren
7 lb. 9 oz.	22 3/8"	Pine Lake	5-9	Paul W. Burgund
7 lb. 9 oz.	21 3/4"	Hardin County	9-4	Jerry L. Gillespie
7 lb. 8 oz.	23"	Van Buren County	5-29	William H. Meyer
7 lb. 5 oz.	22 3/4"	Lake Anita	2-29	Paul W. Burgund
7 lb. 5 oz.	21"	Cass County	4-11	Gary Steward
7 lb. 3 oz.	22"	Lake Wapello	3-14	William T. Hols
7 lb. 2 oz.	23"	Davis County	4-11	Jim Haberichter
7 lb. 2 oz.	24"	Farm Pond	3-30	Ron McDowell
7 lb. 2 oz.	23"	Lake Morris	4-2	Kenneth Mason
7 lb. 1 oz.	23 1/4"	Lucas County	8-8	L. Don Groves
7 lb.	21 1/2"	Nine Eagles	5-24	Byran Abernathy
7 lb.	22 1/2"	Decatur County	9-5	Michael Davis
7 lb.	22"	Farm Pond	4-22	Russ Pidima
7 lb.	21 1/2"	Woodbury County	4-19	Joe P. Tomasello
		Hannan Lake		Tennant
		Benton County		
		Monona County		

BASS (Ocean Striped) No Entries
BASS (Rock) No Entries



Jim Sangl, Worthington, Minnesota

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
BASS (Smallmouth)				
*6 lb. 7 oz.	22"	Upper Iowa River	7-5	Jimmie McAndrews
5 lb. 2 oz.	20 1/2"	Winneshiek County	4-18	Decorah
4 lb. 14 oz.	21 1/2"	West Okoboji	9-10	Jim Sangl
4 lb. 11 oz.	21"	Dickinson County	7-4	Worthington, Minn.
4 lb. 8 oz.	21"	West Okoboji	8-15	Albert Johnson, Jr.
4 lb. 7 oz.	20"	Bear Creek	4-23	Storm Lake
4 lb. 6 oz.	20 1/4"	Buchanan County	9-7	Richard T. O'Brien
4 lb. 5 oz.	20"	Cedar River	9-17	Independence
4 lb. 4 oz.	21"	Black Hawk	9-6	Mike Holtkamp
4 lb. 4 oz.	19"	West Okoboji	4-26	Cedar Falls
4 lb. 2 oz.	19 1/2"	Dickinson County	5-20	George L. Marzeck
4 lb. 2 oz.	20 1/2"	Dickinson County	4-28	West Burlington
4 lb. 1 oz.	21"	Dickinson County	4-15	Don Huggins
4 lb.	19 1/2"	Rock Quarry	9-5	Panora
		Benton County		Virg Harrison
				Cherokee
				Wade Bolton
				Shell Rock
				Larry Stone
				St. Olaf
				Larry Bendlin
				Spencer
				Otis Smith
				Sibley
				Steve Schnell
				Milford
				Richard F. Berger
				Vinton



Ron Wasmund, Spencer

BASS (White)				
3 lb. 2 oz.	18 1/4"	West Okoboji	5-29	Ronald Wasmund
2 lb. 11 oz.	17 1/4"	Dickinson County	5-8	Spencer
2 lb. 8 oz.	18 1/2"	East Okoboji	4-17	Burnell MacDonald
		Dickinson County		Scranton
		East Okoboji		Lonnie Lasher
		Dickinson County		Lake City
BASS (Yellow)				
*1 lb. 1/2 oz.	12"	Clear Lake	9-29	Floyd Kinnan
15 oz.	11 1/2"	Cerro Gordo County	6-5	Clear Lake
14 oz.	12"	Farm Pond	6-13	Thomas L. Shumaker
13 1/2 oz.	11 1/2"	Muscatine County	6-13	Davenport
13 oz.	10 3/4"	Farm Pond	6-28	Thomas L. Shumaker
12 oz.	10 3/4"	Muscatine County	1-5	Davenport
		Clear Lake		Mike Stettelman
		Cerro Gordo County		Clear Lake
		Clear Lake		Stephen L. Schutte
		Cerro Gordo County		Clear Lake

WEIGHT LENGTH WHERE CAUGHT DATE ANGLER

BLUEGILL

*2 lb. 5 oz.	11 3/4"	Farm Pond	4-22	Mary L. Pool
1 lb. 12 oz.	11 1/2"	Jasper County	5-23	Prairie City
1 lb. 10 oz.	11 1/2"	Farm Pond	7-12	Mrs. Jean Skinner
1 lb. 6 oz.	10 1/2"	Taylor	6-19	Blockton
1 lb. 4 oz.	10 1/2"	Farm Pond	5-23	Mike Lines
1 lb. 4 oz.	8 1/2"	Scott County	7-15	Bettendorf
1 lb. 3 oz.	10 1/4"	Farm Pond	6-2	Mrs. Tommie Weston
1 lb. 3 oz.	11 1/2"	Taylor County	9-19	Red Oak
1 lb. 2 oz.	10"	Farm Pond	5-3	Edd Bridgeman
1 lb. 2 oz.	10"	Benton County	7-3	LaPorte City
1 lb. 2 oz.	9 3/4"	Farm Pond	7-1	Jeff Meggers
1 lb. 2 oz.	10 1/2"	Woodbury County	7-3	Dow City
1 lb. 2 oz.	10 1/2"	Des Moines County	8-2	Phil Thelen
1 lb. 2 oz.	10 1/2"	Woodbury County	7-3	Estherville
1 lb. 2 oz.	10"	Taylor County	8-18	Louie Troll
1 lb. 1 oz.	9 3/4"	Farm Pond	7-8	Harlan
1 lb. 1 oz.	10 1/2"	Woodbury County	5-10	Timothy Graham
1 lb. 1 oz.	10 3/8"	Golf Course Pond	6-5	Wapello
1 lb. 1 oz.	11"	Louisa County	4-16	Rob Groszkrueler
1 lb. 1 oz.	11"	Farm Pond	8-23	Correctionville
1 lb.	9 1/2"	East Okoboji	5-28	Jim Haberichter
1 lb.	10 1/4"	Dickinson County	7-3	West Burlington
1 lb.	10 1/2"	Woodbury County	7-3	Mary Ann Phillips
		Viking Lake	7-3	Sioux City
		Montgomery County		Mike Volkmar

BUFFALO No Entries

BULLHEAD

2 lb. 15 oz.	15"	Farm Pond	9-12	Eugene Hubbard
		Des Moines County		Burlington

CARP

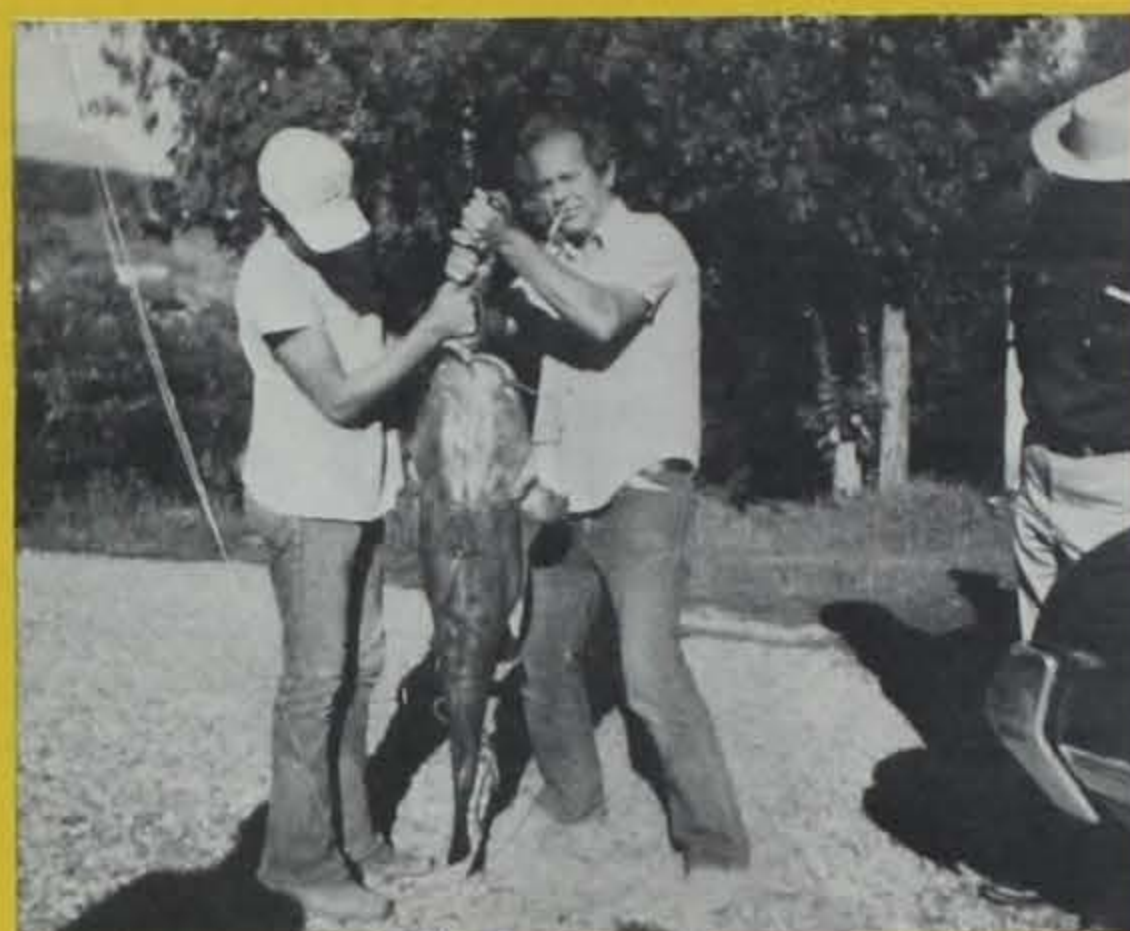
29 lb. 2 oz.	37"	East Okoboji	5-30	Ted Cramer
28 lb. 12 oz.	35 1/2"	Dickinson County	12-21	Glenn Dyslin, Jr.
		Dickinson County		Aurelia



John Grennes, Merrillville, Indiana

CHANNEL CATFISH

22 lb. 8 oz.	34"	Red Haw Lake	9-17	John P. Grennes
20 lb.	33"	Lucas County	7-15	Merrillville, Indiana
20 lb.	29"	Des Moines River	7-13	Dominic Fontanna
19 lb. 2 oz.	35"	Polk County	12-27	Ankeny
17 lb. 12 oz.	34"	Farm Pond	7-10	Ralph F. Schuster
17 lb. 12 oz.	32 1/2"	Taylor County	6-8	Blockton
16 lb. 8 oz.	32"	West Okoboji	8-28	Doug Stange
16 lb. 1 oz.	29 3/4"	Dickinson County	5-12	Sibley
16 lb.	36 3/4"	Farm Pond	6-26	Steven A. Dawson
15 lb. 10 oz.	31"	Keokuk County	7-7	Iowa City
15 lb. 4 oz.	33"	Lake Manawa	7-11	Don W. Drake
15 lb.	31"	Pottawattamie County		Council Bluffs
		Farm Pond		Bruce Brock
		Ida County		Battle Creek
		Sand Pit		Ed Baird
		Wapello County		Ottumwa
		Storm Lake		Alvin E. Akin
		Buena Vista County		Dwight Tissue
		Pine Lake		Waterloo
		Hardin County		Albert Schmidtke
		E. Fork Des Moines Riv		Humboldt
		Humboldt		Jimmie McAndrews
		Upper Iowa River		Decorah
		Winneshiek County		



Ron Andresen, Des Moines

WEIGHT LENGTH WHERE CAUGHT DATE ANGLER

CATFISH (Flathead)

43 lb.	42 1/2"	Des Moines River	8-28	Ronald F. Andresen
30 lb.	39"	Boone County	5-8	Des Moines
28 lb.	39"	Iowa River	7-31	Dana B. Page
27 lb. 8 oz.	40 1/4"	Johnson County	3-8	Des Moines
21 lb. 9 oz.	39"	Raccoon River	9-3	Don Ganoe
21 lb. 4 oz.	36"	Greene County	7-25	Jefferson
		Raccoon River		Mike Painovich
		Dallas County		Des Moines
		Missouri River		Jim Albright
		Woodbury County		Sioux City
		Raccoon River		Roger Chesler
		Greene County		Jefferson



Mike Hargrove, Muscatine, (left) and Jerry Jensen, Exira

CRAPPIE

3 lb. 2 oz.	15"	Sand Pit	5-16	Mike Hargrove
3 lb. 2 oz.	16"	Muscatine County	5-24	Muscatine
2 lb. 14 oz.	17"	Farm Pond	4-2	Jerry L. Jensen
2 lb. 10 oz.	16 1/2"	Audubon	6-5	Exira
2 lb. 8 oz.	16"	Farm Pond	7-2	Bill Thomas
2 lb. 8 oz.	17"	Mahaska	5-6	Rose Hill
2 lb. 8 oz.	18"	Afton Lake	4-17	Ronald L. Latimer
2 lb. 8 oz.	17"	Union	4-16	Creston
2 lb. 4 oz.	16 1/2"	Sand Pit	5-11	Charles F. Eastman
2 lb. 4 oz.	16"	Black Hawk	5-24	Cedar Falls
2 lb. 4 oz.	15"	Farm Pond	7-13	George L. Marzeck
2 lb. 3 oz.	14 1/2"	Henry County	7-29	West Burlington
2 lb. 1 oz.	15 1/2"	Farm Pond	4-12	Randy Schell
2 lb.	16"	Jones County	8-13	Cascade
2 lb.	12 3/4"	Sand Pit	5-2	Scott F. Swift
		Muscatine County		Davenport
		Indian Lake		Dorothy Barnes
		Van Buren County		Fort Madison
		Whiting Woods Park		Dr. Ted R. Jamison
		Monona County		San Antonio, Texas
		Farm Pond		Stephen J. Rusco
		Taylor County		Lenox
		Lake Geode		Mike Gardner
		Henry County		LeClaire
		Des Moines River		Bob Sackett
		Marion County		Pella
		Lake of Three Fires		Hank Lehman
		Taylor County		Emerson
		Roberts Creek Lake		Jim Kiernan
		Marion County		Newton

(Continued on page 10)

Cover Story

Spring Spectacle

by Richard A. Bishop

Photos by Ken Formanek

AS SPRING sprouts and lifts her delicate form from underneath the dominance of winter, the barking cries of snow geese carried on mild March breezes announce her coming. Skeins of excited snow geese, anxious to return to their arctic nesting grounds, push back the receding ice and snow line as they arrive in southwest Iowa by the tens of thousands. Truly a sight to behold, large flocks of snow geese of both the white and blue phase eagerly change their menu from green shoots of coastal marsh grasses, wheat and rice, to the waste grain in our cornfields.

These birds have spent the winter on the Gulf coastline of Louisiana and Texas or slightly farther north in the rice fields of these two states. Gulf coast marshes have been the traditional wintering grounds of the snow goose. A gradual shift northward into the great rice and wheat producing zones of Louisiana and Texas has been noted in recent years. This probably is a response to better food conditions in these areas. Some mild winters find snow geese wintering as far north as Kansas and northwest Missouri.



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5 RIV
6 SQ

IOWA

Longer days and an uncontrollable urge to return to the land of their birth, starts the northward migration of these magnificent birds. They begin moving into southern Iowa in large numbers about the second week of March, depending on the weather. Peak goose concentrations generally occur between March 20 and April 10. They can be viewed flying up and down the Missouri River bottoms or feeding in picked corn fields from Hamburg in southern Fremont County to Onawa in Monona County. Specific areas where snow geese concentrate are the Riverton Wildlife Area near Riverton and Forney Lake near Thurman both in Fremont County, and DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge near Missouri Valley in Harrison County. These areas offer excellent viewing opportunities during most years.

Since the peak of migration is regulated by spring weather, it is best to watch for news articles released from the Iowa Conservation Commission which inform the public on the best dates to view the birds. To make sure you don't miss it, you could call the Conservation Commission in mid-March at 515-281-5971. People from all sections of the state travel to southwest

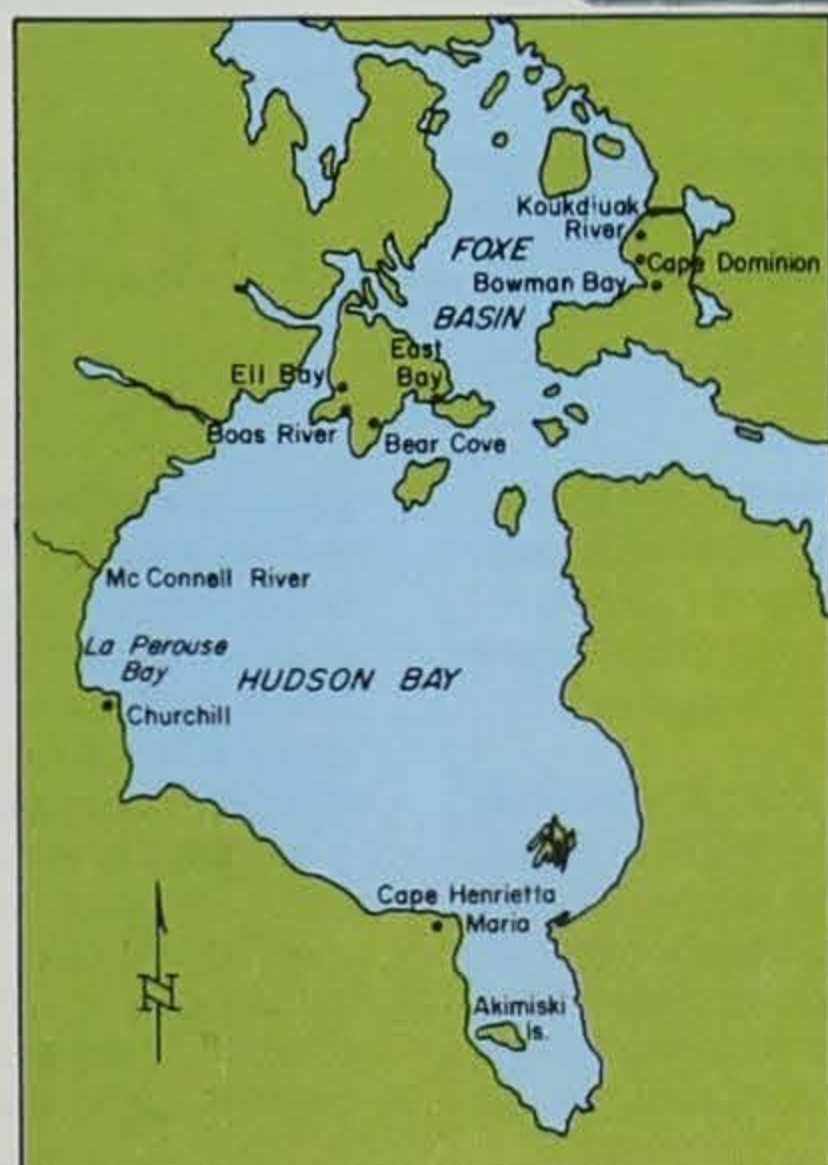
Iowa to view the big goose spectacle. It truly brings forth a reverence for the wild and a respect for nature which will thrill young and old alike. If you have witnessed this, I need say no more; if you haven't, it's well worth your time.

Other species of waterfowl are also present during the spring migration. Pintails, mallards, widgeon, green-winged teal and other ducks are early migrators that show up shortly after the snow geese arrive. The spring courtship flights of these birds provide entertaining aerial acrobatics. The drakes, dressed in their gaudy breeding plumage, strive vigorously to impress the females. This vanguard of ducks and some geese can be observed in many places across the state where water areas are available. Scenes created by these intriguing birds can do nothing but enrich the spirit and feeling of approaching spring.

As warm southerly winds continue to melt the snow from crop fields and open small water areas to the north, these anxious birds push on. Extensive feeding in this food-rich corn belt will provide the fat reserves needed when the birds reach their arctic destination. Berries and grasses that provide food on the nesting



- 1 DEVILS LAKE - N. DAKOTA
- 2 SAND LAKE - S. DAKOTA
- 3 DESOTA BEND - IOWA
- 4 FORNEY LAKE - IOWA
- 5 RIVERTON - IOWA
- 6 SQUAW CREEK - MISSOURI



grounds are often covered with snow when the geese arrive. Without stored energy, many of these birds would perish or would certainly not nest successfully.

Migrating waterfowl have traditionally inspired the imagination and the lure of far away places. Most of these birds are bound for the western shores of Hudson Bay, but some will nest on Baffin Island on the eastern shore. Nesting colonies with the names of La Perouse Bay, McConnell River, Boas River and East Bay, to name a few, will provide snow-free nesting sites in early to mid-June for these incoming birds. Snow geese select raised tundra hummocks and small islands in braided river channels, when they arrive at Hudson Bay. Nesting begins when these sites are exposed by melting snow, but often the rest of the tundra is still snow covered. Timing is very critical because of the short period of time available to raise their brood of goslings. Many geese start nesting when the preferred sites become snow

(Continued on Page 14)

By Sonny Satre

Photos by Sonny Satre and Bob Runge

IOWA'S GREAT LAKES REGION located in northwest Iowa, Dickinson County, is well known for its recreational opportunities, especially during the busy season from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The five camping areas maintained by the Iowa Conservation Commission in this area, Gull Point State Park, Emerson Bay, Lower Gar Access, Isthmus Access and Marble Beach, are normally filled to capacity with anxious anglers and vacationers throughout this period.

There are, however, two beautiful times of the year when these parks and for that matter all of Iowa's state parks, are almost void of activity compared to the heavy use months of June through August. One of these times is early spring, from late April through May. Weather conditions can be unpredictable then but this is true in Iowa anytime of the year. When trees are budding and leafing out; when the fresh fragrance of blossoms fill the air; when the brown countryside once again comes back to life; it's a great time for a camping outing.

Besides camping, it's an excellent time to catch fish. The surrounding glacial formed lakes have an abundance of fish species available to test any angler's know-how. Walleye, perch and smallmouth bass provide plenty of rod-bending action but the number one prize of most springtime anglers is the bullhead. You can almost count on catching all the "yellow bellies" you care to clean and they are superb to eat from that cool, clear lake water in the spring of the year. To find out where the fish are biting and other angling tips, visitors can obtain up-to-date angling information from commission fishery personnel at the state fish hatchery located between East Okoboji Lake and Big Spirit Lake. While you're there, you may want to tour the hatchery and view the actual hatching process of walleye and muskellunge.



Pillsbury Point



Pikes Point



Isthmus Access



Lower Gar



Emerson Bay



Gull Point

DESERTED CAMPGROUNDS

If recreational boating is what you prefer, Spirit Lake, East and West Okoboji Lakes offer over 11,000 acres of water to explore. For water-skiers, however, water temperatures this time of year would be too cool for most to endure.

The autumn season is another excellent time to plan a camping trip to this area. Most campgrounds are virtually deserted. The fall colors of the ashes, oaks, hackberrys and cottonwoods add to an already picturesque lakeside setting. Autumn weather brings cooler water temperatures which means

good to excellent perch fishing at Spirit Lake and West Okoboji for an added bonus to the fall camper. The daily catch limit of 25 can usually be taken within a short time. Perch fillets fried to a golden brown aren't just good—they're the best! Fall is also the time when lunker muskellunge and walleyes go on a feeding binge before ice up. For the waterfowl hunter who wants to camp-out, this region offers many acres of public-owned marshes. Or you may prefer the quiet solitude of just enjoying the Indian summer weather and colorful scenery.



Gull Point



Pillsbury Point



Pikes Point



Gull Point



Pillsbury Point



Lower Gar

BOUNDS . . . WHERE?

OF the five camping spots in this area, **GULL POINT STATE PARK** is the largest with 165 acres. This popular park, located on the west shore of West Okoboji, is heavily wooded with good stands of white and bur oak. Camping facilities include showers, flush toilets and electrical hook-ups. Gull Point is the only state campground in this region which offers electricity. The camping rate per night is \$4.00 with complete services.

While Gull Point closes its gates at 10:30 p.m. each night like all state parks, Emerson

Bay, Lower Gar, Isthmus and Marble Beach camping areas remain open as they also serve as public fishing accesses for nighttime anglers.

EMERSON BAY, a seven acre area, is situated about one mile south of Gull Point on Lake West Okoboji. This camping area is a very popular public fishing access. A boat ramp and swimming beach are provided. The overnight camping rate here and in the remaining areas is \$2.50.

IOWA GREAT LAKES REGION PUBLIC PICNIC & CAMPING AREAS



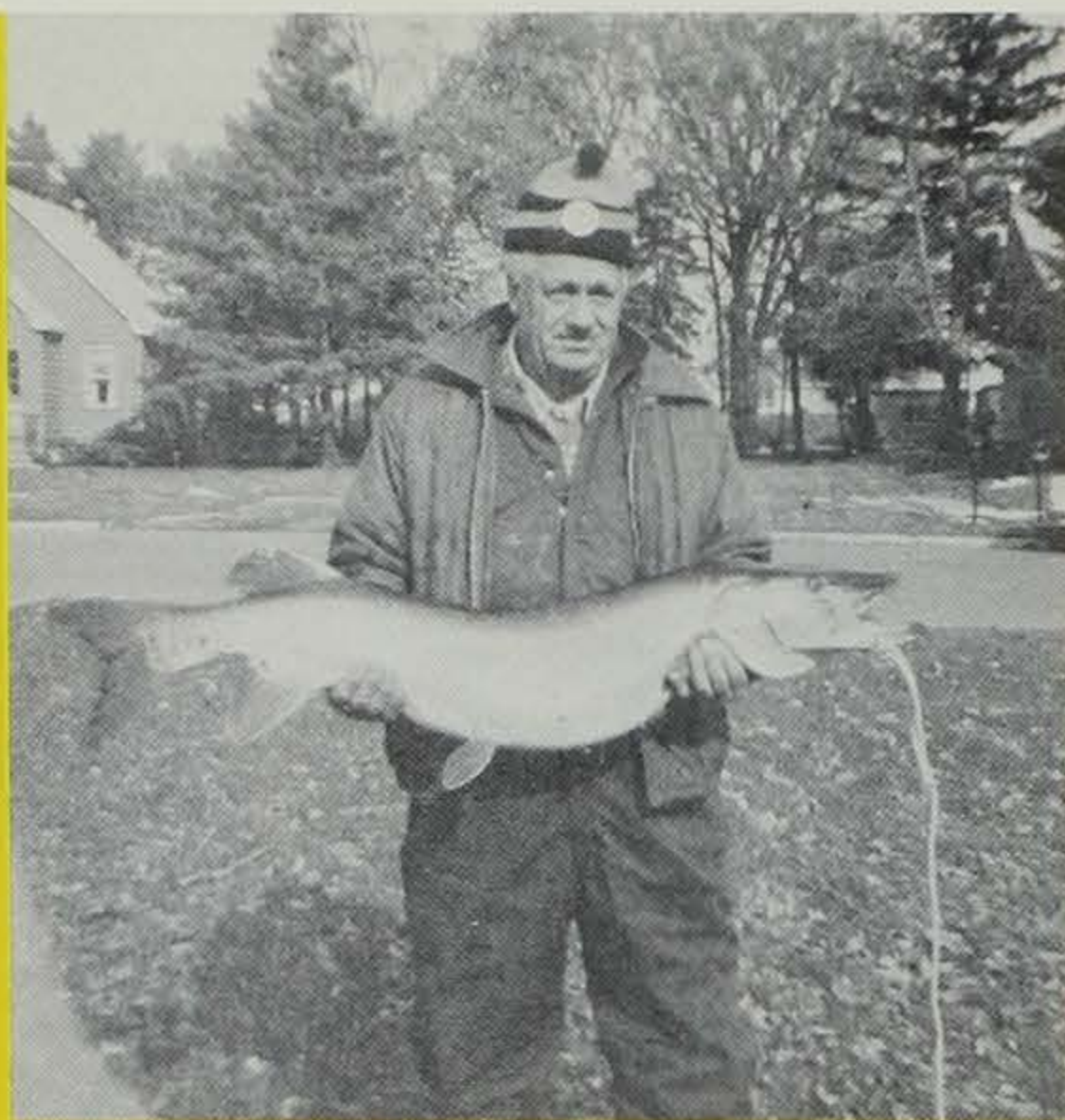
LOWER GAR ACCESS is located on the west shore of Lower Gar Lake, approximately one-half mile southeast of Arnolds Park. This 23 acre well-shaded campground is a popular fishing area, with bullheads the predominant species.

THE 24 acre **ISTHMUS ACCESS** campground is located on the north shore of East Okoboji Lake, just west of the State fish hatchery. A boat ramp and swimming beach is located nearby on the south shore of Big Spirit Lake. Fishing is usually quite good in East Okoboji during the early spring months. Bullheads, walleye and perch provide most of the action.

MARBLE BEACH, located on the west shore of Big Spirit Lake, is a very popular fishing campground. The park offers an excellent panoramic view of the lake. Facilities offered at this 64 acre tract include a boat ramp, sanitary facilities, public beach, picnic tables and excellent fishing opportunities.

THE Iowa Conservation Commission also manages three other parks in the Great Lakes Region which offer no camping

(Continued on Page 15)



Cornie Van Den Baard, Pella

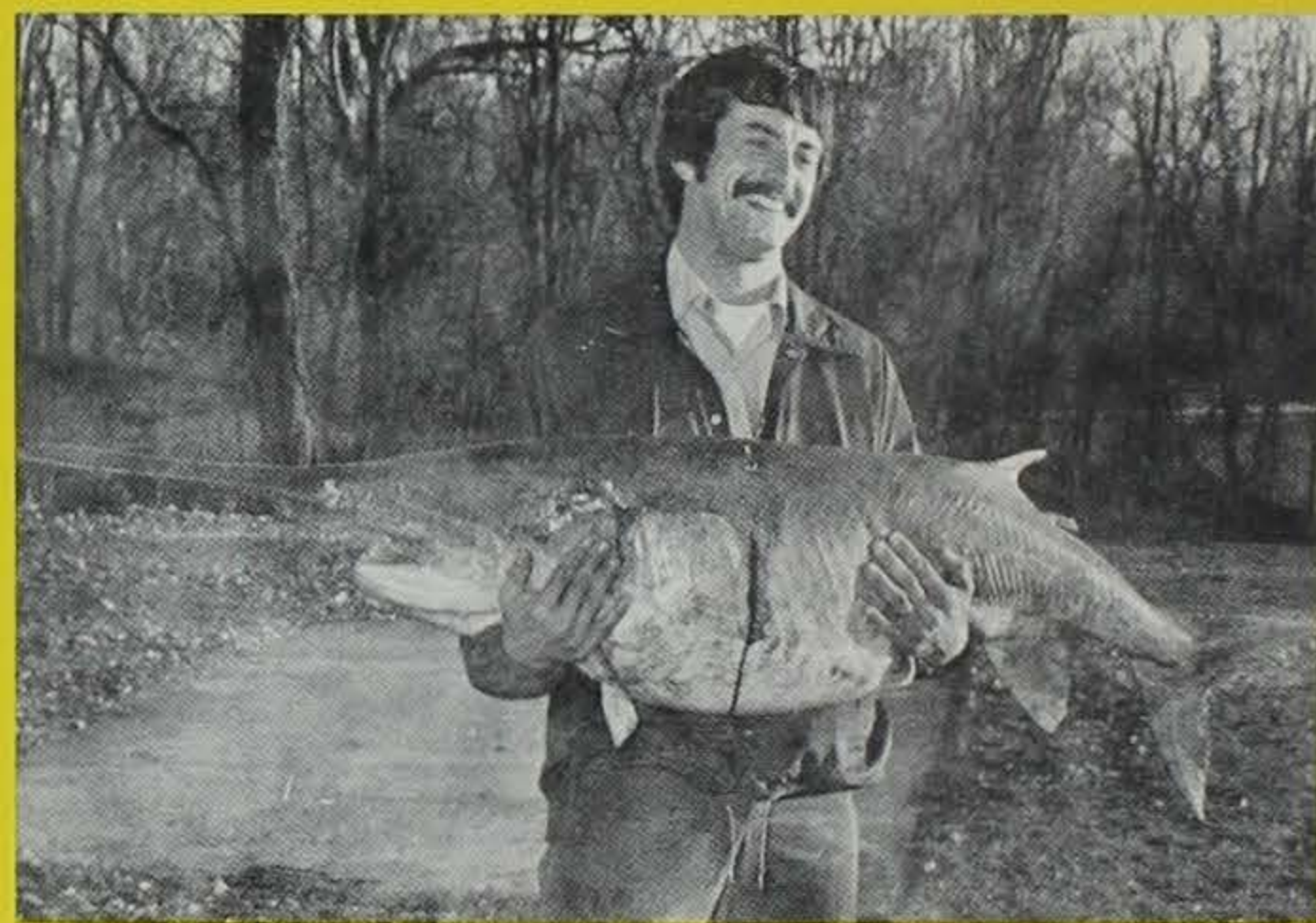
WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
MUSKELLUNGE				
29 lb. 10 oz.	48"	Clear Lake	10-26	Cornie Van Den Baard
		Cerro Gordo County		Pella
24 lb. 2 oz.	46 3/8"	West Okoboji	7-23	Suzanne Akin
		Dickinson		Spirit Lake
21 lb. 12 oz.	42"	West Okoboji	9-10	Larry Bendlin
		Dickinson County		Spencer
15 lb. 8 oz.	38 1/2"	West Okoboji	9-18	Ed Feldhacker
		Dickinson County		Spencer



P. M. Dougan, Hamburg

NORTHERN PIKE				
18 lb.	38"	Lakeview Pond	7-25	P. M. Dougan
		Fremont County		Hamburg
17 lb. 13 oz.	40"	Mississippi River	2-14	Henry N. Peters
		Clayton County		New Hampton
16 lb. 12 oz.	40 3/4"	West Okoboji	11-16	Orv Belken
		Dickinson County		Spencer
15 lb. 14 oz.	41"	Spirit Lake	5-14	Barry Fain
		Dickinson County		Estherville
15 lb. 7 oz.	39"	West Okoboji	2-12	Bernard Rhower
		Dickinson County		Archer
14 lb. 2 oz.	39"	West Okoboji	7-20	Charlie Warren
		Dickinson County		Spencer
13 lb. 12 oz.	37"	West Okoboji	11-17	Orv Belken
		Dickinson County		Spencer
13 lb. 12 oz.	39"	West Okoboji	1-28	Delwyn Johnson
		Dickinson County		Albert City
13 lb. 11 oz.	39"	West Okoboji	1-28	Delwyn Johnson
		Dickinson County		Albert City
13 lb.	37 3/4"	East Okoboji	10-9	Carl Johnson
		Dickinson County		Spirit Lake
12 lb. 8 oz.	37"	West Okoboji	1-18	Lance Christenson
		Dickinson County		Milford
12 lb. 7 oz.	36"	Blue Lake	5-11	Vincent D. Tucker
		Monona County		Whiting
12 lb.	38 1/2"	Cedar River	4-20	Richard F. Berger
		Benton County		Vinton
11 lb. 12 oz.	35 1/4"	Sny Magill	9-12	Rod Sersland
		Allamakee County		Monona
11 lb. 9 oz.	31"	Mississippi River	3-22	Sid Hendershot
		Allamakee County		LaPorte City
11 lb. 9 oz.	37"	West Okoboji	2-12	Jim Leners
		Dickinson County		Ayrshire
11 lb. 8 oz.	37 1/2"	Wapsipinicon River	4-4	Randy Messer
		Jones County		Anamosa

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
11 lb. 8 oz.	34"	Fishers Lake	1-27	Harold K. Pett
		Black Hawk County		Waterloo
11 lb. 8 oz.	36"	Silver Lake	10-31	William D. Ritterholz
		Dickinson County		Spencer
11 lb. 6 oz.	34 1/2"	West Okoboji	1-13	John Prentice
		Dickinson County		Spencer
11 lb. 5 oz.	32 1/2"	Des Moines River	3-2	Rick L. Olson
		Marion County		Des Moines
11 lb. 1 oz.	35"	West Okoboji	2-2	Harold Muilenburg
		Dickinson County		Sheldon
10 lb. 10 oz.	37"	Farm Pond	8-9	Edward Grace
		Clinton County		Wheaton, Illinois
10 lb. 8 oz.	32"	Blue Lake	7-15	Daryl Magnuson
		Monona County		Red Oak
10 lb. 6 oz.	32"	Blue Lake	7-15	Ronald W. Burnison
		Monona County		Red Oak
10 lb. 6 oz.	35"	West Okoboji	9-15	Bobby Gene Gibson
		Dickinson County		Omaha, Neb.
10 lb. 4 oz.	35"	Lake Miami	10-23	Albert S. Smith
		Monroe County		Albia
10 lb. 3 oz.	35 1/2"	Union Grove Lake	7-17	Walt Boham
		Tama County		Ver Digre, Neb.
10 lb. 2 oz.	35"	Spirit Lake	10-17	Jon Brandow
		Dickinson County		Fort Dodge
10 lb. 2 oz.	35"	West Okoboji	12-8	James Kraninger
		Dickinson County		Milford
10 lb. 1 oz.	35 1/2"	West Okoboji	9-5	Steve Christensen
		Dickinson County		Marathon
10 lb. 1 oz.	35"	West Okoboji	5-31	Ernest Jacob
		Dickinson County		Melbourne
10 lb.	36"	West Okoboji	5-25	Patrick J. Brown
		Dickinson County		Nokesville, Virginia
10 lb.	35"	West Okoboji	5-9	Glen Larsen
		Dickinson County		Clare
10 lb.	33"	Des Moines River	6-24	Mike Szemplenski
		Marion County		Council Bluffs



Larry Miller, Lake View

PADDLEFISH				
68 lb.	65"	Missouri River	2-19	Lannie R. Miller
		Woodbury County		Lake View
54 lb. 8 oz.	65 1/4"	Mississippi River	7-14	Edward H. Keiffer
		Jackson County		Dubuque
48 lb. 10 oz.	60 1/2"	Mississippi River	8-3	Ben Van Gundy
		Jackson County		Bellevue
48 lb.	59 1/2"	Mississippi River	10-26	Orville Dole
		Jackson County		Pearl City, Illinois
46 lb.	57"	Missouri River	3-26	Jay C. Hoth
		Woodbury County		Sloan
44 lb. 12 oz.	63 1/2"	Mississippi River	2-24	Lennil C. Simmons
		Jackson County		Davenport
44 lb. 11 oz.	58 1/2"	Mississippi River	1-12	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
43 lb.	58"	Mississippi River	6-29	Mike Carter
		Jackson County		Bellevue
39 lb. 9 oz.	61 1/4"	Mississippi River	6-7	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
37 lb.	58"	Mississippi River	10-28	Ralph Drane
		Jackson County		Pearl City, Illinois
36 lb. 4 oz.	57 1/2"	Mississippi River	6-8	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
35 lb. 6 oz.	58"	Mississippi River	2-20	Phil Marvin
		Monona County		Onawa
32 lb. 3 oz.	56 3/4"	Mississippi River	6-8	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
32 lb.	53"	Mississippi River	7-10	Jeff Biehl
		Scott County		Bettendorf
31 lb. 6 oz.	47"	Missouri River	7-15	Bill Huff
		Woodbury County		Sloan
30 lb. 8 oz.	55 1/2"	Mississippi River	6-7	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
28 lb. 6 oz.	55"	Mississippi River	3-18	Maurice Anderson
		Jackson County		Bellevue
27 lb. 6 oz.	53 1/4"	Mississippi River	7-21	Dean Beck
		Jackson County		Bellevue
26 lb. 8 oz.	52 1/2"	Mississippi River	6-8	Ben Van Gundy
		Jackson County		Bellevue



Kent Kruger, Ionia

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
PERCH, YELLOW				
1 lb. 9 oz.	13 1/4"	Mississippi River	1-10	Kent K. Kruger
1 lb. 2 oz.	13"	Allamakee County		Ionia
1 lb. 2 oz.	12 1/4"	West Okoboji	9-19	Eugene Anderson
1 lb. 2 oz.	12 1/4"	Dickinson County		Alta
1 lb. 1 oz.	12 1/2"	West Okoboji	12-29	Pete Jacobsma
1 lb. 1 oz.	12 1/2"	Dickinson County		Doon
1 lb. 1 oz.	11 3/4"	West Okoboji	1-25	Jim Burgeson
1 lb. 1 oz.	11 3/4"	Dickinson County		Arnolds Park
1 lb. 1 oz.	11 1/4"	Mississippi River	8-14	Mike Hanson
1 lb. 1 oz.	11 1/4"	Allamakee County		Cedar Falls
1 lb. 1 oz.	12"	Mississippi River	1-9	Kerry Kruger
1 lb. 1 oz.	12"	Allamakee County		Ionia
1 lb.	12 1/4"	West Okoboji	2-6	Daniel Menke
1 lb.	12 1/4"	Dickinson County		Calumet
1 lb.	12 1/2"	West Okoboji	1-16	Ed Asche
1 lb.	12 1/2"	Dickinson County		Eagle Grove
1 lb.	12 1/2"	East Okoboji	11-24	Paul Baiotto
1 lb.	12 1/2"	Dickinson County		Arnolds Park
SAUGER				
*6 lb. 8 oz.	25"	Missouri River	10-2	Mrs. William Buser
4 lb. 1 oz.	21 3/4"	Woodbury County		Sloan
3 lb. 12 oz.	24"	Mississippi River	3-25	Rich Moser
		Clayton County		Guttenberg
		Mississippi River	3-22	Terry A. Williams
		Allamakee County		Cedar Rapids



Harold Messingham, Waterloo

SHEEPSHEAD				
27 lb.	34"	Mississippi River	7-17	Harold Messingham
22 lb.	31 1/2"	Allamakee County		Waterloo
18 lb. 12 oz.	32"	Mississippi River	5-11	Jim Steen
16 lb. 8 oz.	30"	Clayton County		Guttenberg
16 lb.	30"	Mississippi River	10-11	Howard Kluss
		Clayton County		Monona
		Mississippi River	6-10	Lila Crain
		Allamakee County		Clermont
		Mississippi River	7-25	Ronald A. Paar
		Clayton County		Waterloo

WEIGHT LENGTH WHERE CAUGHT DATE ANGLER

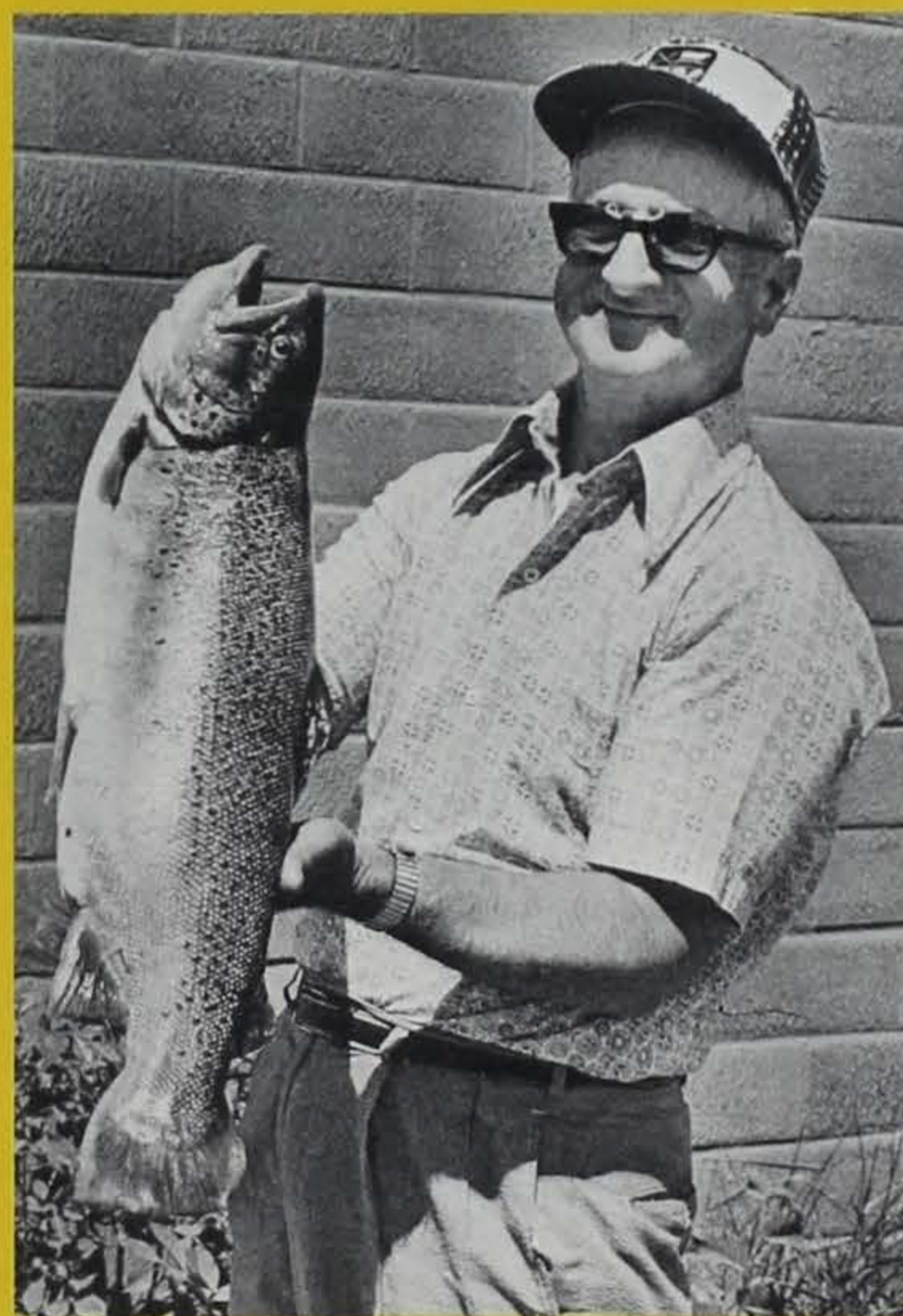
STURGEON, SHOVELNOSE (No Entries)

SUCKER, WHITE (No Entries)

SUNFISH, GREEN

*1 lb. 4 oz. 11" Farm Pond 8-8 Ronald R. Sinnwell
Polk County Des Moines

TROUT, BROOK (No Entries)



Raphael Baker, Cresco

TROUT, BROWN

11 lb. 1 oz.	29 1/2"	Spring Creek	4-3	A. M. Swanson
10 lb. 8 oz.	27 1/4"	Mitchell County		Osage
10 lb. 1 oz.	29 1/4"	Richmond Springs	6-10	Paul Staebell
9 lb. 13 oz.	27"	Delaware County		Waterloo
9 lb.	28 1/2"	Bear Creek	4-9	John G. Loveless
8 lb. 4 oz.	26"	Fayette County		Cedar Falls
7 lb. 12 oz.	23"	Coldwater	5-20	Raphael Baker
7 lb. 7 oz.	27 1/4"	Winneshiek County		Cresco
7 lb. 2 oz.	24 1/2"	Little Mill Creek	9-4	August F. Milder
7 lb.	25 1/2"	Jackson County		Preston
6 lb. 2 oz.	23 1/2"	Bohemian Creek	4-22	Lelan Johnson
6 lb. 1 oz.	26"	Winneshiek County		New Hampton
6 lb.	25"	Joy Springs	5-31	Vern J. Strohota
5 lb. 12 oz.	22 3/4"	Fayette County		Traer
5 lb. 9 oz.	22 1/2"	Spring Branch Creek	3-21	Alan L. Dooley
5 lb. 6 oz.	22"	Delaware		Epworth
4 lb. 11 oz.	22"	Buck Creek	5-20	George Wolf
4 lb. 10 oz.	21"	Clayton County		Coggon
4 lb. 8 oz.	21"	Kleinlein Creek	6-5	Roger Ruden
3 lb. 15 oz.	21 1/2"	Clayton County		Dubuque
3 lb. 12 oz.	21 1/2"	Silver Creek	6-5	Jim Fink
3 lb. 11 oz.	21 1/2"	Allamakee County		Nora Springs
3 lb. 10 oz.	21 1/2"	Swiss Valley Creek	4-15	Randy Pribyl
3 lb. 9 oz.	21 1/2"	Dubuque		Eldridge
3 lb. 8 oz.	21 1/2"	Waterloo Creek	9-5	Mike Crane
3 lb. 7 oz.	21 1/2"	Allamakee County		Cedar Rapids
3 lb. 6 oz.	21 1/2"	Brush Creek	5-27	Barry Ruden
3 lb. 5 oz.	21 1/2"	Jackson County		Dubuque
3 lb. 4 oz.	21 1/2"	South Bear Creek	5-23	Dennis D. Tjepkes
3 lb. 3 oz.	21 1/2"	Allamakee County		Cedar Falls
3 lb. 2 oz.	21 1/2"	Waterloo Creek	7-4	Michael Crane
3 lb. 1 oz.	21 1/2"	Allamakee County		Cedar Rapids
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Little Turkey	3-6	Eugene J. Takes
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Clayton County		Farley
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Big Paint Creek	4-10	Douglas P. Meyer
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Allamakee County		Des Moines
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Spring Creek	6-24	Weston Fink
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Mitchell County		Nora Springs
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Elk Creek	9-4	Jim Hartman
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Delaware County		Hiawatha
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Buck Creek	3-17	Paul Steger
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Clayton County		Sherrill
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Little Mill	4-1	Roger Ruden
3 lb.	21 1/2"	Jackson County		Dubuque



Richard Swick, Muscatine

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
TROUT, RAINBOW				
12 lb. 8 oz.	28 1/2"	Hickory Creek Allamakee County	4-7	Richard Swick Muscatine
11 lb. 10 3/4 oz.	29 3/4"	Siewers Springs Winneshiek County	4-6	Leonard A. Clites New Hampton
9 lb. 12 1/2 oz.	27 1/2"	Bigalk Howard County	4-13	Charles Bronner Cresco
9 lb. 8 oz.	30"	Turkey River Clayton County	6-15	Ernest H. Dorn Denver
9 lb. 7 oz.	26 3/4"	Spring Branch Delaware County	4-1	Mrs. Dorothy Tauke Dyersville
9 lb. 3 1/4 oz.	27 1/2"	Bloody Run Clayton County	3-28	LuVerne Krambeer Farmersburg
9 lb.	27"	Village Creek Allamakee County	6-16	Edwin E. Erickson, Sr. Lansing
8 lb. 14 oz.	27"	Grannis Creek Fayette County	4-14	Harold (Pat) Snyder Sumner
8 lb. 10 oz.	26"	Bear Creek Winneshiek County	4-15	E. F. Bock Clear Lake
8 lb. 10 oz.	27"	French Creek Allamakee County	4-17	Michael J. Schreckengast Cedar Rapids
8 lb. 8 oz.	24"	Joy Springs Clayton County	4-7	John W. Sewick Waterloo
8 lb. 4 oz.	26 1/2"	Grovers Creek Fayette County	4-27	Jeanette R. Wilson Toddville
8 lb. 3 oz.	26"	South Bear Creek Winneshiek County	4-7	Fred Feikes Ackley
8 lb. 1/2 oz.	27"	Bloody Run Creek Clayton County	5-8	Deidre A. Pederson Marquette
7 lb. 13 oz.	27 1/2"	Buck Creek Clayton County	10-13	Chuck Puccio Epworth
7 lb. 8 oz.	27 1/2"	Siewers Springs Winneshiek County	5-18	Russell Chambers Charles City
7 lb. 6 1/2 oz.	28 1/2"	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	6-26	Tom Freiberg Charles City
7 lb. 4 oz.	25 1/2"	Buck Creek Clayton County	5-7	Robert Early Cedar Rapids
7 lb. 1 oz.	25"	South Cedar Clayton County	5-15	August E. Kirchoff Denver
6 lb.	23"	Otter Creek Fayette County	4-3	Danny Sullivan Sumner
5 lb. 8 oz.	23 1/2"	Bigalk Creek Howard County	5-12	Maynard Houden Ridgeway
5 lb. 7 oz.	23 1/4"	Buck Creek Clayton County	2-27	Mike O'Malley Dubuque
5 lb. 5 oz.	23 1/2"	Big Mill Creek Jackson County	5-6	James Henkel Dubuque
4 lb. 12 oz.	22 1/2"	Richmond Springs Delaware County	5-7	Tom Lockhart Ames
4 lb. 10 oz.	23 1/2"	Turtle Creek Mitchell County	4-3	Ted Williams Iowa Falls
4 lb. 8 oz.	21"	Little Paint Creek Allamakee County	4-21	John S. Herr Davenport
3 lb. 8 oz.	20 1/2"	Little Turkey Delaware County	5-11	Dennis J. Hermesen Farley
3 lb. 6 oz.	20"	South Cedar Clayton County	4-7	Carl Salomone Cedar Falls
3 lb. 4 1/2 oz.	20"	Big Mill Jackson County	5-30	Paul Steger Sherrill



Fred Wilson, Okoboji

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
WALLEYE				
11 lb. 6 oz.	28 1/2"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	11-30	Fred Wilson Okoboji
11 lb.	29"	Summit Lake Union County	1-21	Ned Killmon Creston

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
10 lb. 12 oz.	30"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-17	Don Reason Arnolds Park
10 lb. 8 oz.	29"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-15	Don Reason Arnolds Park
10 lb. 3 oz.	30 1/2"	Wapsipicon River Linn County	10-22	Tom Reilly Cedar Rapids
10 lb. 1 oz.	28 3/4"	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	12-29	C. E. Melcher Clear Lake
10 lb.	28 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-15	Cap Kennedy Arnolds Park
10 lb.	29"	Des Moines River Humboldt County	2-18	Garold E. Hough Algona
10 lb.	30"	Shellrock River Butler County	3-22	Les Steere Greene
9 lb. 14 oz.	30"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-2	Lars Bersheim Hartley
9 lb. 12 oz.	28 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-16	L. J. Hackett Arnolds Park
9 lb. 12 oz.	30"	Iowa River Johnson County	7-1	Kent Williams Decatur, Illinois
9 lb. 11 oz.	27 1/2"	East Okoboji Dickinson County	10-24	Joe Stones Cedar Rapids
9 lb. 9 oz.	28 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-3	Don James Larrabee
9 lb. 9 oz.	27"	Cedar River Black Hawk County	3-27	John Billick, Jr. Waterloo
9 lb. 9 oz.	29"	North Twin Lake Calhoun County	4-7	Keith Allinger Fort Dodge
9 lb. 8 oz.	30"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-21	Richard Bremer Ocheyedan
9 lb. 8 oz.	30"	Wapsipicon River Jones County	5-14	Mike Summers Martelle
9 lb. 8 oz.	28 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-2	Fred Wilson Okoboji
9 lb. 8 oz.	28"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-7	Tom R. Reason Arnolds Park
9 lb. 7 oz.	28 3/4"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-1	Roger Smith Spirit Lake
9 lb. 6 oz.	28"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-16	Cap Kennedy Arnolds Park
9 lb. 4 oz.	27"	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-11	Dale Walters Colesburg
9 lb. 1 oz.	30"	Iowa River Marshall County	5-13	David Long Marshalltown
9 lb.	30"	Mississippi River Allamakee County	8-22	Dwayne Feickert Postville
9 lb.	27 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	2-4	Gary Wilson Cherokee
9 lb.	27"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	2-15	Darrel L. Johnson Cherokee
9 lb.	27 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-1	Mike Morton Milford
9 lb.	28"	Lake Macbride Johnson County	4-4	Gary R. Baack Marion
8 lb. 15 oz.	29"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-2	Robert Bendlin Spencer
8 lb. 12 oz.	28"	Lake Macbride Johnson County	10-31	Jack Neuzil Solon
8 lb. 12 oz.	29"	Cedar River Mitchell County	2-8	Jon Kruse Osage
8 lb. 10 oz.	28"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-15	William Roger Sheldon
8 lb. 10 oz.	28"	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-14	Rich Moser Guttenberg
8 lb. 10 oz.	28"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-13	Glen Reason Arnolds Park
8 lb. 9 oz.	28 1/4"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-26	Dick Alexander Milford
8 lb. 9 oz.	27"	Mississippi River Dubuque County	4-4	Earl Davis Dubuque
8 lb. 8 oz.	28"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-11	Gene Fulk Sanborn
8 lb. 8 oz.	27 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-7	Don Reason Arnolds Park
8 lb. 8 oz.	27 1/2"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	12-1	Bud Rowe Jackson, Minn.
8 lb. 6 oz.	27"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-14	Jim Taylor Spencer
8 lb. 6 oz.	34"	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-21	LeRoy Gardemann Cedar Rapids
8 lb. 5 oz.	26 3/4"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-16	Alvin Akin Spirit Lake
8 lb. 4 oz.	29 3/4"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-28	Romain Weiskircher Milford
8 lb. 4 oz.	30"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-6	Orville Belken Spencer
8 lb. 4 oz.	29 1/4"	Des Moines River Polk County	8-4	Don W. Fisher Des Moines
8 lb. 4 oz.	27"	Des Moines River Polk County	2-16	Jack L. Chopp Des Moines
8 lb. 4 oz.	27"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-24	Tom Reason Arnolds Park
8 lb. 4 oz.	27"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-18	Cap Kennedy Arnolds Park
8 lb. 4 oz.	29"	Lost Island Palo Alto County	11-14	Alvin Akin Spirit Lake
8 lb. 3 oz.	28 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	11-18	Jim Taylor Spencer
8 lb. 3 oz.	26 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-10	Don Reason Arnolds Park
8 lb. 2 oz.	27"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-7	Doug Stange Sibley
8 lb. 2 oz.	29"	Mississippi River Allamakee County	5-9	Frank Williams Cedar Falls
8 lb. 2 oz.	29"	Lost Island Palo Alto County	11-8	Alvin Akin Spirit Lake
8 lb. 1 oz.	28 1/2"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-17	Galen Groth Spencer
8 lb. 1 oz.	29"	Lake Macbride Johnson County	6-25	Ben Milder Iowa City
8 lb.	26 3/4"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-8	Bob Forbes Spirit Lake
8 lb.	26 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-2	Phillip Hess Rock Rapids
8 lb.	26 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-10	Dan James Larrabee

*New State Record

Iowa All-Time Record Fish

WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LENGTH	WHERE CAUGHT	DATE	ANGLER
BASS (Largemouth)					NORTHERN PIKE				
10 lb. 5 oz.	24 1/4"	Farm Pond Lee County	8-70	Paul Burgund Fort Madison	25 lb.	43"	Cedar River Black Hawk County	3-74	Kenneth Eastman Cedar Falls
BASS (Smallmouth)					PADDLEFISH				
6 lb. 7 oz.	22"	Upper Iowa River Winneshiek County	7-76	Jimmie McAndrews Decorah	83 lb.	66 3/4"	DeSoto Bend Harrison County	5-73	Lawrence J. Bonham Missouri Valley
BASS (Rock)					PERCH (Yellow)				
1 lb. 8 oz.	10 1/2"	Mississippi River Dubuque County	6-73	Jim Driscoll Dubuque	1 lb. 15 oz.	14 3/4"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-74	John Walz Estherville
BASS (White)					SAUGER				
3 lb. 14 oz.	20"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	5-72	Bill Born Milford	6 lb. 8 oz.	25"	Missouri River Woodbury County	10-76	Mrs. William Buser Sloan
BASS (Yellow)					SHEEPSHEAD				
1 lb. 1/2 oz.	12"	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	9-76	Floyd Kinnan Clear Lake	46 lb.	38 1/2"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-62	R. F. Farran Clarion
BLUEGILL					STURGEON (Shovelnose)				
2 lb. 5 oz.	11 3/4"	Farm Pond Jasper County	4-76	Mary L. Pool Prairie City	12 lb.	33"	Des Moines River Van Buren County	4-74	Randy Hemm Douds
BULLHEAD					SUCKER (White)				
4 lb. 8 oz.	17 3/4"	Farm Pond Taylor County	4-66	Dennie Karas Massena	4 lb. 6 oz.	21 1/2"	Granger's Creek Dubuque County	3-74	Mike Lambert Dubuque
4 lb. 8 oz.	22 1/2"	Boyer River Harrison County	8-71	Ralph Cooney Woodbine	SUNFISH (Green)				
BUFFALO					1 lb. 4 oz.	11"	Farm Pond Polk County	8-76	Ronald R. Sinnwell Des Moines
43 lb. 8 oz.	40"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	4-74	James D. Grim Arnolds Park	TROUT (Brook)				
CARP					1 lb. 14 oz.	16"	Sny Magill Creek Clayton County	2-75	John Delleman Davenport
50 lb.	44"	Glenwood Lake Mills County	5-69	Fred Hougland Glenwood	TROUT (Brown)				
CATFISH (Channel)					12 lb. 14 1/4 oz.	28"	Elk Creek Delaware County	11-66	Billy Lee Marion
30 lb. 4 oz.	39"	Viking Lake Montgomery County	8-74	Glenn Harms Shenandoah	TROUT (Rainbow)				
CATFISH (Flathead)					13 lb. 8 oz.	32"	Richmond Springs Delaware County	11-68	C. Melvin Vaughn Waterloo
62 lb.	46"	Iowa River Johnson County	7-65	Roger Fairchild Coralville	WALLEYE				
CRAPPIE					14 lb. 2 oz.	31 1/2"	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-68	Herbert Aldridge Spirit Lake
4 lb. 1 oz.	19 1/4"	Farm Pond Tama County	5-69	John Lenhart Tama					
MUSKELLUNGE									
38 lb.	52 1/2"	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-75	Ed Feldhacker Spencer					

How To Enter '77 Big Fish

Despite the great success of fishermen in 1976, no doubt a few finnickily old leviathans still abide in Iowa waters. If one should find his way to your stringer, here is what to do:

Any species of fish taken by hook and line and caught in state or boundary waters is eligible. There are, however, minimum qualifying weights or length limitations as listed below:

Bass, largemouth 7 lbs.	Muskellunge 15 lbs.
Bass, ocean striped 5 lbs.	Northern pike 10 lbs.
Bass, rock 1 lb.	Paddlefish 25 lbs.
Bass, smallmouth 4 lbs.	Perch, yellow 1 lb.
Bass, white 2 1/2 lbs.	Sauger 2 1/2 lbs.
Bass, yellow 3/4 lb.	Sheepshead 15 lbs.
Bluegill 1 lb.	Sturgeon, shovelnose 3 lbs.
Buffalo 20 lbs.	Sucker, white 4 lbs.
Bullhead 2 1/2 lbs.	Sunfish, green 1 lb.
Carp 25 lbs.	Sunfish, redear 1 lb.
Catfish, blue 20 lbs.	Trout, brook 1 lb.
Catfish, channel 15 lbs.	Trout, brown 3 lbs.
Catfish, flathead 20 lbs.	Trout, rainbow 3 lbs.
Crappie 2 lbs.	Walleye 8 lbs.

Any 1977 entry must be weighed to the nearest ounce on scales legal for trade. The weighing must be witnessed by two persons.

If there is some doubt in species identification, the angler should contact the nearest Iowa Conservation Commission personnel for verification. Any new all-time state record fish must be examined and verified by Iowa Conservation Commission personnel.

The angler must fill out an official entry blank or facsimile and send it and a photo or color slide of the angler and the fish to Official Big Fish Records, Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, by January 1, 1978. The entry blank includes the name and address, the species of fish, date caught, body of water,

county, total length, bait or lure used, and the witnesses' signatures and addresses. Official entry blanks will be included in the 1977 Fishing Laws Synopsis brochure which will be available to the public wherever fishing licenses are sold. Any fish that surpasses the official state record will be publicized through the Conservation Commission's weekly news release. All state records and the 1977 record fish will be published in the March 1978 issue of the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST. Iowa Angling Award certificates and shoulder patches will also be sent to qualifying anglers.

ENTRY BLANK FOR IOWA RECORD FISH

NAME _____
 STREET/RFD _____
 CITY _____
 SPECIES _____ DATE _____
 COUNTY WHERE CAUGHT _____
 LAKE OR STREAM _____
 TOTAL LENGTH _____ WEIGHT _____ lb. _____ oz.
 BAIT OR LURE USED _____

WITNESSES

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

(Entries of fish caught during the year must be sent to the Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 by January 1, 1978.)

CLASSROOM CORNER

By Robert Rye

ADMINISTRATOR, CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER

"BIRDING" has varied avenues for enjoyment. Some individuals try to see as many different species of birds as possible. Some study one group or a particular bird. Other persons enter into carving, raising, or photography of our winged earth inhabitants.

As a result of migration, spring is a time when Iowa has an abundance of waterfowl. The Iowa Conservation Commission maintains flooded areas for the birds to rest. Some, like the Riverton and Forney Lake areas are visited by many people each year. The birds use Iowa fields as a "cafeteria" at this time. We now have an excellent opportunity to observe feeding habits, courtship displays and calls. Also, the birds' coloration at this time of year is at its peak.

Iowa is very fortunate to have waterfowl visit our state. We, as Iowans, need to stop and observe what many people travel hundreds of miles to see. It is like the excitement of a boy who has found his first frog. A different feeling is there after the hundredth flock but we still look for one hundred one.

Waterfowl that may be seen include: geese, the Canada, white front, snows, and blues; ducks, mallards, gadwalls, widgeons, teal pintails, shovelers, redheads, ring necks, buffleheads and others.

These do not all arrive at one time, which gives one an opportunity to go birding several times throughout the spring in order to observe the vast variety of species that pass through. A list of birds could be kept and compared with other excursions and those of past years. I recommend a pair of binoculars and a bird book if you aren't familiar with the bountiful varieties of birds.

Birds change their feathers and their appearance by a process called molting. Some may change several times in one year from the easily observable hatching down to the following spring's

Ken Formanek



bright, colorful feathers which they don for mating purposes.

Waterfowl lose all their flight feathers at once (molting). This leaves them temporarily flightless and wearing a rather dull appearance. They tend to be hidden or camouflaged. Protection from predators is important. Most waterfowl losses occur at this time.

Waterfowl have a variety of natural enemies including other birds. Crows are the worst as they destroy the eggs. Mammals, especially skunks, house cats, and rats, take eggs, young and any adults they are able to capture. Fish, such as the northern pike, gar, and black bass, also take their toll. Snapping turtles kill many young & partially grown birds. Parasites (lice and worms), bacteria (botulism) and man (destroying habitat) make up the biggest threats to the waterfowl.

While we have the birds in the state, try to identify which are making which calls. Do they make more than one call? Can you tell what the calls are possibly telling the other birds?

We could label this a behavior study. It is best when making a study of behavior to stay with one kind of bird and always make notes on what you see and hear. When studying behavior, give special attention to component acts. For example, one could look for the following: Note movement of the head and whether the bill is open or closed. Is the neck extended? What are the movements and positions of the wings both in flight and resting? What is the tail doing? Where are the legs? Are the feathers moving? Which ones?

Watching the birds and attempting to answer these questions could make a rewarding day's effort for either a family or a class.

Enjoyment of just being near the birds makes it a very worthwhile experience even if you try watching uncooperative birds.

SPRING SPECTACLE (Continued from Page 7)

free and additional birds select other nest locations as thawing continues.

Breeding colonies are as spectacular as the spring migration, with approximately 163,000 nests being photographed at McConnel River in 1973. A total of 528,700 snow goose nests were estimated from photographs of Hudson Bay nesting colonies also in that year.

Young snow geese grow at a fantastic rate, feeding intermittently throughout days with 20 hours of daylight. They are raised in the land of the midnight sun, the arctic fox, the caribou and the polar bear. Once they become capable of flight, they group together along the Hudson Bay coast and prepare for the southward migration. In late September or early October, snow geese leave the Hudson Bay area and move south. Some geese fly directly to the gulf coasts while many others linger along the way at waterfowl refuges.

Significant concentrations of geese occur at the Oak Hammock Waterfowl Refuge just north of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Farther south, the Devils Lake area of North Dakota, Sand Lake in South

Dakota, DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge, Riverton, and Forney Lake all in Iowa, Plattsmouth Refuge in Nebraska, Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge in Missouri and Brown County Lake in Kansas provide resting places for these fall migrants. In some years very large numbers of geese can be seen at these areas. Riverton, during the fall of 1972, had 270,000 snow geese using the area. Due to hunting, the birds are more confined to the refuge areas in the fall and can be seen there from late October through mid-December.

The snow goose is one species that has prospered in recent years, mostly because its breeding grounds have not been altered by man. We will continue to see almost unbelievable numbers of these birds as long as adequate nesting, migration and wintering habitat is available. However, this wonder of nature is endangered by man's relentless conquest of the land. If roads provide access for large numbers of people to these breeding areas, or mining of certain minerals becomes economically feasible, we may lose this bountiful resource. The multitude of geese that fill our skies each spring and fall, and hasten the heartbeat of the hunter and bird watcher, may one day be a memory. □

FROM THE

Warden's diary

By Rex Emerson

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR

I STOPPED IN to see an old friend who lives down by the river. He was telling me about his wife's brother who was so dumb he thought Henry Cabot Lodge was a ski resort. It's interesting to talk to the old man once in awhile.

He said, "It's about time to start planning for summer vacation." His summer vacation is moving his rocking chair out onto the old open front porch and putting a lot of miles on it. Then he said, "Tell me, what does a game warden do for a vacation?" As he poured another cup of coffee for me, I began to recall the perfect vacation we had last summer.

My wife and I rented a cabin on a lake shore. Where? That doesn't really matter. There was no phone and no TV. We did get mail, only if we got around to go to town after it. The cabin and the lake were surrounded by pine, white birch and oak trees. The nearly white sand beach came almost to the cabin door. The clear, clean water of the lake slapped gently against the transom of the boat tied to the small dock. The first day, I did such exciting things as watching a spider spin its web. Then I coaxed a chipmunk down from an oak tree with some pieces of bread. His tail kept flicking, and his motions were so jerky and deliberate, he acted almost like a windup toy. Some time was spent just lying in the sun on the nice warm sandy beach. Usually during the day I would spend quite a bit of time fishing, but never planned to bring in more than we could eat. We did have fish for dinner every day - always fresh caught. Some people really work hard at their fishing, so they can freeze and take home a limit. What a waste, to work that hard on your vacation and in many cases, the fish will be thrown out of the home freezer about a year later.

One evening my wife and I went out for a boat ride just to enjoy the natural scenic beauty along a remote, wooded shoreline. I lifted the motor from the water and rowed into the shallow water among the bulrushes. If you remember to put a few drops of oil on the oar locks you can be as quiet as a mouse going to the toilet on a cotton ball. Back in the bay, which was partially lined with yellow water lilies, a deer came out to drink. As she put her head down, I would pull on the oars, moving the boat toward her. When she

raised her head I would stay motionless. We got within fifty feet of the beautiful doe before she decided to go back into the dense woods.

At another place along the shore there was a mallard hen and eight little ducklings. While we sat there watching them swim along the shore a red fox appeared. The fox walked out onto a log that lay partially in the water, and the ducks just swam out a little farther. The fox looked all around like he didn't even know the ducks were there, but he kept giving them a quick glance. Once, while he was looking around, the ducks swam around a little point of land out of his sight. His next quick glance toward where the ducks had been really made him do a double take, like "Where did they go?" He almost fell off the log getting back to shore. We wondered if he had a duck for supper that night.

A great blue heron was wading along in the shallow water. They are, indeed, nature's long-legged fishermen. A quick stab of the sharp beak into the water and up he came with a small fish which he promptly swallowed whole.

By then it was sundown. What a beautiful sight! The sun was setting across the lake, and going down behind the tops of the pine trees, giving beautiful colors to what a few minutes earlier had been just some fleecy white clouds. It looked like the next day would no doubt be just as nice as this one had been.

After supper there was enough breeze to keep the mosquitoes away, so we sat outside for awhile and watched as the moon made the lake sparkle like shimmering diamonds. A raccoon came along the shore looking for crayfish. I made a squeaking noise and I thought he was going to crawl right up into my lap.

The grandchildren and their parents came to visit. That livened things up a bit. There is nothing that can equal watching a youngster learning about nature for the first time. Some of the questions are not too hard to answer, like, "Why does a frog jump?" Because he doesn't have wings. "Why do birds fly?" Because their legs aren't strong enough to walk all the way. But, did you ever try to answer, "What makes the wind blow?"

One day we found a sick leopard frog. Just my little grandson and I. That was going to be his pet. The frog was on its last legs but all the children hoped it would live. It didn't. For a few minutes it looked like that would spoil the whole vacation for the grandchildren. But gandpa came to the rescue when I suggested an elaborate funeral for the poor deceased frog. A grander funeral no frog ever had, with mourners and singing and a burial on the sandy beach! It was so much fun they dug him up and had six funerals for him that day.

When you're out in the woods with a four-year old grandson and he says, "Grandpa, I am so happy," it really makes you feel that it is great being a grandpa.

What does a game warden do on a vacation? I guess not much different than anyone else.

CAMPGROUNDS

(Continued from Page 9)

but are very popular with picnickers and fishermen. The name and location of each of these public use areas are: **MINI-WAKAN STATE PARK**, located on the north shore of Spirit Lake; **PILLSBURY POINT STATE PARK**, located in Arnolds Park near the vicinity of the Gardner Sharp Cabin, site of the infamous Spirit Lake massacre; and **PIKES POINT STATE PARK**, located on the northeast shore of West Okoboji. Pikes Point also has an excellent swimming beach and facilities.

Due to freezing conditions, water facilities are not available in state parks generally beginning October 15 in the fall to May 1 in the spring. Late fall and early spring campers should contact the park ranger for facilities information beforehand. For Gull Point State Park and the surrounding parks in the area call 712-1337-3631. □

Fishing Publication Available



Attention Angler: The Iowa Conservation Commission has announced that the publication **IOWA FISHING GUIDE** is available free on request. The 32-page color illustrated booklet is a good source of angling information. For a copy, write to the Iowa Conservation Commission, Information and Education Section, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, 50319.

